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*d/m File*

21 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director/Plans (via RQM/OIS)  
Deputy Director/Intelligence  
Chief, SR (direct)  
Chief, PP Staff (direct)  
Assistant Director/Operations  
Assistant Director/Research and Reports  
Assistant Director/Scientific Intelligence  
Assistant Director/Current Intelligence

SUBJECT: Material Bearing on the Intelligence Value of Exchange and Other Travel to the USSR

1. At a recent informal meeting, Frederick Merrill, head of the East-West Contacts Staff at State, indicated that State might soon require a statement from the intelligence community covering the value to intelligence of all the various types of travel to the USSR over the past year or two. Merrill's view is that the whole program, not only of formal exchanges but of wide personal travel, may come into question at any time, and that State is likely to need our views on an urgent basis at that time.


2. Accordingly, I should like to have an Agency-wide get-together on this to review the bidding, see what evaluations already exist -- by project, category of travel, etc. -- and generally get our ducks in a row. Our final expression might be a memorandum by the DCI to the Secretary, and/or a review of IAC-D-104, the paper dealing (in February 1956) with the potential intelligence value of exchanges, touching also on other forms of travel as indicating the type of intelligence value obtainable.

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3. Could your representatives meet with me on this next Friday, 10 o'clock  
June 28, in Room 154, Admin., to go over this problem in general and to  
see what material, statistics on reports, etc., may be available? If  
you have personal views and cannot get to the meeting, please give me  
a ring at any time.

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Chairman  
IAC Standing Committee on Exchanges

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